

CHATTANOOGA NEWS

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Peace sentiment is apparently making some progress in Austria.

The Breslau and Goeben ventured out to see if the British navy was there. It was.

At a single bound, Dr. Garfield has become a more widely-advertised man than the colonel.

Developments indicate that the bolsheviks are not so pacific as we had been led to suppose.

Profit-sharing is a good slogan for use in the settlement of nearly all sorts of labor troubles.

Van Hertling may be ill enough to resign. It would make very little difference in the situation.

The ex-czarina is said to have become demented. But that is nothing unusual in Europe just now.

Congress will this week endeavor to take up the fuel deficiency by increasing the output of hot air.

It is a merry race between the big leagues and the draft boards as to who shall get most of the stars.

Kerensky is said to be preparing for a Cataline "comeback." Signs, however, do not seem propitious.

Germany would prefer that the self-determination of peoples be expressed in the presence of German bayonets.

Most every day now some New York newspaper intimates how sorry it is that the south was saved from the "force bill."

In Texas they manifest a disposition to do their bit by stealing liberty bonds, if they can't get them in any other way.

Germany continues to indulge in one-way verbal charges upon the American troops in France, and Americans generally.

So far as Director-General McAdoo has gone, he has discovered that the operation of the railroads of the country is a man-sized job.

Supt. Sherrill was probably impressed too much, perhaps by the sweeping way in which things are done at Washington.

West Virginia courts take themselves seriously. We note that one of them has just ordered ex-Gov. Glasscock to jail for contempt.

It would be well for any wayfarer who to watch out for the spikes if Ty Cobb should forget he is not on the bases and run amuck.

Wilson opposes creation of minister of munitions—Headline. He would much prefer the creation of munitions without the accompanying minister.

It is to be earnestly hoped that Frenchmen may be able to avoid any internal political explosions until the Hun is expelled from their borders.

Having cleared out most of his famous old guard players, the interesting announcement is made that Connie Mack will probably hold on to his job.

Suspending all travel would be one way of relieving congestion. So, likewise, cutting the man to fly the government would be an effective cloth conservation measure.

Andrew Jackson is said to have declared, speaking of officeholders, that few die and none resign. However, Congressman Houston announces his purpose to quit.

When food supplies became scarce, Germany promptly found numerous substitutes. Late reports indicate, however, that there is now a shortage in substitutes.

If suffrage is a favor, we may well debate its granting to women, or wait till the women themselves—a majority—want it. But if it is a right inherent in democracy?

A report is printed in Paris that Gen. Pershing is engaged to be married. Gen. Sarraill, recently recalled from the Balkans, is also said to have recently married a young nurse.

New York papers seem to divide attention and space about equally among Mayor Hyman, Joseph Callahan, Jr., Garfield and the proposed constitutional amendments.

Nashville is not to be blamed for appropriating the location of a \$60,000,000 powder plant in its neighborhood. Safety suggests, however, that it be placed far enough away to obviate the danger of blowing up the state old town.

WHAT THREW INDUSTRY OUT OF GEAR.

Why have industry, business, transportation, shipping and our energetic production of the war been thrown out of gear to such an extent by a shortage of coal?

As a matter of fact, more coal was produced in 1917 than in 1916. Ten million more tons of anthracite and 42,000,000 tons more of bituminous coal were mined in this country in the year just closed. A total of 600,000,000 tons were produced.

Bituminous mine labor worked 250 days in 1917, against 230 days in 1916, and 202 days in 1905. There has been labor trouble, but, as seen, it has not been so serious.

The mines made the showing above cited, despite the fact, too, that they had lost 40,000 men to the army and 30,000 more men to other industries, according to the Black Diamond. Also they have produced more coal despite the reduction in price.

We read stories of trains of coal cars being held up here and there because of the congestion in transportation. But, even before the roads were taken over by the government, the presidents of the systems had compiled figures to show that more freight was hauled in 1917 than in any previous year.

According to the Marine Record, last year was the banner season, also, in the coal movement on the Great Lakes.

Only about 18,000,000 tons of our coal has been exported. This is scarcely 3 per cent. of the total mined. So this could not have produced the present condition.

All the trouble has not been a decreased production or failure to move the coal, though local congestion at places—for instance, 250,000 tons held up on the docks at Staten Island waiting barges to carry them over the bay to New York City—have added to the gravity of the situation.

The shortage, according to statisticians, is due almost entirely to the great expansion of war industries.

While we have produced and distributed more coal than usual, the increase was not sufficient, due to the enormous demand.

Rich, powerful and highly organized as is our country, it has not proven equal to the strain represented in the production of goods for a six-billion-dollar-a-year export, much of these goods being munitions of war. Even the increased coal supply hasn't proven sufficient. Government regulation of the price, also, has compelled many of the smaller operators to cease mining coal; otherwise there would have been a larger increase.

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